

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 587

By Vital

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Dr. Martina Suttle Harris on her selection as Dean of Nursing and Allied Health at Chattanooga State Community College.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should give special recognition to those individuals who have achieved significant milestones in their careers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martina Suttle Harris is one such individual, who was recently selected to serve as Dean of Nursing and Allied Health at Chattanooga State Community College and commenced her tenure in that illustrious post on March 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, as dean, Dr. Harris leads and oversees thirteen Allied Health programs and the registered nursing program at Chattanooga State Community College; and

WHEREAS, Dean Harris has more than twenty-one years of higher education experience in both the classroom and clinical setting; and

WHEREAS, prior to her selection as Dean of Nursing and Allied Health, Dr. Harris distinguished herself as Assistant Dean of Nursing and Allied Health and as the nursing program director, a position she had held since joining the staff of the college in 2013; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure as nursing program director, she expanded the Registered Nursing Program to include the Kimball site and led the registered nursing program through a successful, six-year Accreditation Commission of Education in Nursing re-accreditation process; most recently, she worked to implement the Surgical Tech Program as a new program of study in the Nursing and Allied Health division; and

WHEREAS, Dean Harris previously taught at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, where she served as the level facilitator for first-year students and was a tenured UC Foundation associate professor in the School of Nursing; in addition, she formerly taught at Middle Tennessee State University in the School of Nursing; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Harris has served as project director for several Health Resources and Services Administration grants focused on recruiting and retaining under-represented minorities in health care; she has also served on the Board of Directors for the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning, was involved in the development of the Standards of Best Practice: Simulation, and, in 2020, was appointed to serve as a member of the Tennessee Board of Nursing by Governor Bill Lee; and

WHEREAS, a highly regarded member of her profession and her community, Dean Harris is a Tennessee Board of Regents Maxine Smith Fellow and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and Chattanooga Downtown Rotary Club; and

WHEREAS, active in various professional organizations, Dr. Harris serves on the board of directors of Volunteers in Medicine, Journey Health Foundation, Hamilton County Department of Education, and Erlanger Health Systems Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Dean Harris exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, her professionalism, integrity, and steadfast commitment to educational excellence surely bode well for her success as Dean of Nursing and Allied Health at Chattanooga State Community College; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martina Suttle Harris is a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and most worthy of our approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Dr. Martina Suttle Harris on her recent selection as Dean of Nursing and Allied Health at Chattanooga State Community College and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to

the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.